WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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Travel.

Everywhere are trees and grass,
As one finds at home;
Nor can I leave the sky behind
No matter where I roam:

Everywhere I see the same
Modes of life endure—
Everywhere I find the Rich
Thriving on the Poor.

HARRY KEMP, in The Masses.

The Passing Show.

An English exchange refers to Australia as a "democracy."

This country can never be a democracy in politics as long as it is a plutocracy in industry.

As Prof. Irvine, of Sydney University, says, this community is quite unorganised. To keep it unorganised is the grand aim of those who thrive on disorganisation.

We have two great political parties, the leaders of which are reformers. What they propose merely amounts to taking the chance to rob from those who have it and giving it to the crowd that wants it.

What is wanted is for the workers to get together in a party which has for its motto, "Down with all Robbery!".

The Socialist Party demands the abolition of sobbery, and is told that its demands are impossible, and its members madmen.

If the rest of the world be sane, then Socialists are certainly mad.

But are the other fellows sane? Watch the military processions in the streets; read the war news in the daily papers; note how the majority are humbugged and robbed of the fruits of their labor by employers, middle-men, and numberless parasites. If they were convicts in a prison they would be better fed, housed, clothed and cared for than they are. They are said to be sane because they put up with the conditions imposed on them. The Socialists are said to be mad because they condemn such conditions.

The sane, hardheaded majority glorify war as a divine institution for "bringing out the finer qualities" of mankind. Socialists look on war as individual and national suicide—the individual gives up its life, and the nation sacrifices its best and most physically fit workers.

When an individual commits suicide, a coroner's jury bring in a verdict of temporary insanity. When the individual gives up his life in battle, the grand jury —the majority—brings in a verdict of heroism.

Wilson and Bryan, two big pots in America, have split. The latter says the split is over "ideas," but at the back of the ideas there are material interests of Yankee capitalists.

"Thou shalt not steal" applies properly to taking from the toiler any part of his product in interest, rent, or profit. All other theft is petty compared to this. And this both Wilson and Bryan squarely support.

The traction engine is helping to roll the small wheat farmer into the ranks of the unemployed and thence into those of Socialism. The bread mill is doing the same for the small bakers.

Judging by the cackle on conscription, it looks as if the geese were again trying to save Rome. Arguing from what we know of past leadership, it appears that our modern crusaders have again chosen to be led by the goat and the goose.

This is a system with legalised thievery at one end and legalised slavery at the other. And because both infamies are legalised neither thieves nor slaves realise what they are.

THE UNEMPLOYED

"Why, man, I don't want to see you starve—I need you, to keep my employees from asking higher wages."—THE MASSES.

If you use nonsense and talk long enough you can bore a hole into the honest head on earth. All capitalist writers and preachers know this and act accordingly.

A bit of capitalist philosophy: "There is always room at the top if you can push others off."

A man said to the writer, "There'll be hell to pay after the war." He wasn't referring to the financiers though his remark suggested them.

The money wasted on the war would have been sufficient to lift the nations engaged in it above want. The men destroyed could have produced enough to satisfy the needs of twenty times their number. The money spent in building battleships would build homes for all the slum-dwellers in Europe.

Anti-Socialists are vigorously preaching funeral sermons over Socialism, but the corpse refuses to be buried. It merely sits up and laughs.

The mosquito who drills through your skin assumes that you don't know enough to object. In fact, he looks on you as an inferior. If you patiently yield up your blood the varmint's right—you are his inferior. Apply the reasoning of the mosquito to your industrial position and you'll see something.

The rattle of shelled corn in a dipper has enticed many a shy colt to a hard day's ploughing, but the farmer who rattles the corn never suspects that he himself is lured by the rattle in the papers about high prices and good seasons.

There is a suggestion which, if followed by every friend of this paper, will result in an immediate increase in its circulation and ultimately accomplish much good for our movement. Watch the paper for something that will interest the members of your trade union. Then take the copy to the next meeting and ask permission to read an extract from it. This will probably provoke discussion in which you can take part and accomplish your main object.

A cable from London last week informed newspaper readers that a corpse from the "Lusitania" had been washed up on the coast of Ireland, and that it was supposed to be the body of Mr. Vanderbilt, the millionaire. The latter fact, it seems, rendered the corpse interesting. Had it been merely the body of a common person it wouldn't have been mentioned.

The love of home is one of the finest human sentiments, but where there is a tribute required before you can have a home, it becomes a means of enslavement. The state shark, and the landlord class exploit the love of home.

Sir John Forrest and other leading Liberals are urging the formation of a non-party National Government on the lines recently followed in Great Britain. When interviewed, Sir John said he had never thought of the matter until action of the kind was taken in Britain. That's just what the average Australian politician always does. He watches Britain, and when he sees something done there, he wakes up and wants to imitate it. If Britain goes to war, we must go to war also. If Britain follows the King, so must we. If Britain adopts conscription, watch how the politicians will whoop for it.

"This war cannot end until Germany has been reduced to such a state that she must surrender to the Allies at discretion."—Sydney "Daily Telegraph."

"This world is at present in the throes of a malignant disease which threatens its disintegration. From that fate nothing can deliver it but final and decisive Germany victory."—"Frankfurter Zeitung."

Two mad dogs baying the moon could not be more unreasoning than the press of both sides in the present European argument.

"There are no masters in this country. We retain the expression in the Masters and Servants Act because the Act itself is a survival of conditions which for the most part were importations."—Sydney "Daily Telegraph."

The masters are thus explained away, and the Act accounted for.

A schoolmaster up Albury way has written to Mr. Black, N.S.W. Chief Secretary, reporting cases of disloyalty. He states that he was in the habit of reading the war cables to the scholars each morning, and giving copious explanations of their meaning, with little dissertations on patriotism, and lecturettes on glory, and that some of the parents objected to such schooling, and actually dared to write and say so. He states that in drawing attention to such disloyalty he had no desire to see anyone punished. Of course not. It was curious to note that the press in mentioning the matter headed it "Enemies in our Midst." To our way of thinking the schoolmaster was one of them.

"Men Wanted. Must be forthcoming" was the significant heading the press of June 12 put above some remarks by the Minister for Defence, Senator Pearce. In Britain, the press has similar headings, with persistent urging for conscription if the workers won't volunteer. The press here is a faint echo of the British article, and we may shortly expect them to strike the same conscription note.

"Men must be forthcoming without delay to replace those fallen." Senator Pearce, Minister for Defence.

Roll up heroes! Don't miss this chance for glorious distinction and extinction.

"Visiting Socialist" writes:—"In the Domain last Sunday, I was surprised to hear a fiery revolutionist trouncing the Socialists ("Slow-cialists," he called them) while literature sellers were countering him by selling Socialist pamphlets and books at his meeting. Naturally, I encouraged the salesmen in preference to the ranter."

Quite right, sellers of Socialist literature are worth encouraging. They are helping us.

Things are moving some. The Anti-Socialist I.W.W. of Sydney, has just republished the British Independent Labor Party's pamphlet, "How the War Came." In an explanatory foreword, the Press Committee "desires it to be understood that their organisation does not necessarily agree with any of the views put forward by the compilers. The same reason that prompted the Independent Labor Party of England to publish it that is, to spread information among the people about the various forces which brought about the great catastrophe and also to prevent side-tracking and false issues being raised by the bought press — has prompted the Industrial Workers of the World to republish the pamphlet."

We heartily congratulate our Fellow Workers on the desire to spread information (truth) that prompted them to republish the Labor Party's pamphlet, though we can scarcely understand what prompted the reservation that their organisation "does not necessarily agree with any of the views put forward by the compilers."

Our hot-air patriots have two contradictory theories about the war. One is that we are engaged in a life and death struggle which is going to last for some considerable time and require our utmost energies to win. On this theory every young man is urged to enlist at once and help to beat the powerful enemy. The other theory is that Germany's plans have failed, that she is short of food, and is on the verge of a military or economic collapse. The truth is that the patriots know little or nothing about it.

News from Austria via Zurich and London suggests that life in the Austrian capital has been very slightly affected by the war—that is amongst the well-to-do. Gaiety, indeed, appears to have increased, but out among the villages and amongst the poor, the desolation is extreme. Despite the drain incidental to the campaign the Socialist Party is strong, and the women workers in the movement are working with much earnestness and ardor in the cause of peace. Thousands of the poor in Hungary are reported to be in a state of revolt against the warlords. The cost of living is trying them sorely and makes them well-nigh desperate. Whatever doubt there may be in connection with such news, there is sure to be some truth about the suffering and misery of the poor, anyway.

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WHEN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE.

The number on the wrapper of your paper is the number at which your subscription expires. Renew before that number is reached.

It is the duty of the inquirer to ascertain the truth, and then to state it as decisively and clearly as he can.—Winwood Reade.

Nationalising the Bread Trade.

N.S.W. Attorney-General, Mr. D. R. Hall, had a rough passage recently when he gathered the Operative Bakers' Association together at the Trades Hall, Sydney, to tell the members that the State Government intended to Nationalise the Bread Trade. Mr. Hall pointed to the trustification of the trade going on in Canada, the United States of America, New Zealand, and other countries, and said that what was happening in those countries would happen here. He claimed that the introduction of machinery and large scale production was destined to come, and the question for them to consider was whether it would be better for the public to wait until private enterprise trustified the trade, or for the State to slip in and do it. He said if the State nationalised the industry a saving of £1,250,000 a year could be effected in the people's bread bill. But in speaking to the Operative Bakers he knew he was "speaking to the men who would be the worst hit." As this fact dawned on the Trades Hall habitues, the interruptions grew thick and furious. Waste would be cut out, and jobs would be fewer, and the speaker was not prepared to say what the Government would be willing to do for the displaced labor. Then pandemonium broke loose. Men who had been comfortable in their jobs for many years, men who had scoffed (may be) at Socialist teachings, had a sudden vision of unemployment, and here was a trusted leader bringing this on them. Here was a Minister in a Labor Government calmly proposing to introduce machinery to put them out of the bakeries. It was awful. But the Minister said that if the Government didn't do it the other fellow—their enemy—would, with disastrous results to the whole community. The speaker, in vain, pointed out that the workers to-day were better off under machine production than they were before. The men didn't think so. The introduction of machinery displaced labor and increased the numbers of jobless workers, and they objected to be a party to it. They didn't believe in the comfortable theory that other avenues of labor always opened for the displaced workers when the machines took their job from them. Not they. They had seen what happened to the typos in the printing trade, when the linotype was introduced, and what happened to the bottle-blowers when the automatic blower was invented, so they gave Mr. Hall what for. They were angry and alarmed. But the Minister wasn't alarmed, but pursued the matter to the bitter end winding up with the remark that the State could give the employees who were retained better wages and the public the profits. "The people," he said, "who own the industries should get the profits." Needless to say, the people who own the industries will get the profits, and Uncle Cohen, who finances the Capitalist State, will be the owner.

A HAPPY FAMILY.

On Wednesday, June 9, the Roman Catholic Apostolic Delegate entertained a large party at the Delegation. The entertainment took the form of a luncheon, and on the surface appeared to be an innocent little gathering of the official political and religious leaders of the people. His Excellency, the Governor of N.S.W., was amongst the guests, and there were also present Dr. Kelly, R.C. Archbishop of Sydney, Premier Holman, Mr. Spence, Federal Postmaster-General, Senator Gardiner, Mr. Griffith, N.S.W. Minister for Education, Mr. Meagher, Speaker of N.S.W. Legislative Assembly, the Lord Mayor of Sydney, the Town Clerk of Sydney, Captain D'Apice, Mr. T. Dalton, Sir Thomas Hughes (leading laymen of the Church), Revs. Dr. Gallagher, J. O'Gorman, and Dr. Ormond.

The party was thus representative of the Church and State, and when we reflect that the Apostolic Delegate is one of the Vatican's shrewdest and ablest organisers, the gathering becomes significant, and indicates that there was something doing. What that something was can only be conjectured, as what was said was carefully kept from the public. None of the speeches were reported, and we are left in the dark as to what the gathering, under the wing of the Pope's representative means. The activity of the Church in opposition to the Socialist movement in this and other countries is rapidly developing, and we wouldn't be at all surprised if later on it turned out that the question of tactics cropped up at the gathering at the delegation.

WHAT MR. ASQUITH SAID AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The British public will hardly know how to take its rulers if they keep on making speeches. Some weeks ago the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Lloyd George, and Lord Kitchener, both discanted upon the dearth of ammunition being supplied by the British factories. Then Mr. Asquith went to Newcastle and cancelled what his colleagues said. Amongst other things Mr. Asquith said:—

"I saw a statement the other day that the operations, not only of our Army, but of our Allies, were being crippled, or, at any rate, hampered, by our failure to provide the necessary ammunition. There is not a word of truth in that statement, which is the more mischievous because, if it were believed, it is calculated to dishearten our troops, to discourage our Allies, and to stimulate the hopes and the activities of our enemies.

"Nor is there any more truth in the suggestion that the Government of which I am the head have only recently become alive to the importance and urgency of these matters. On the contrary, in the earliest days of the war, when some of our would-be instructors were thinking of quite other things, these matters already claimed our anxious attention, and as far back, I think, as the month of September, I appointed a committee of the Cabinet, presided over by Lord Kitchener, to survey the situation from this point of view.

"Nor, again, is it true or fair to suggest that there has been anything in the nature of a general slackness in this branch of industry on the part of either employers or employed. I am told on the best authority that the main armament firms registered the very high average figure of from sixty-seven to sixty-nine hours per week per man."

Since Mr. Asquith delivered that speech, Mr. Lloyd George has been repeating his former statements with remarkable additions about the set-back of the Russians owing to the superior equipment of Germany's factories, and urging the workers in the British factories to increase their efforts to supply the needful munitions for the armies in the field. Altogether, the "Statesmen" with the big names seem to be at sixes and sevens. Their speeches constitute a startling verification of the opinion of the father who bade his son go forth and see with what little wisdom the world is governed.

When you vote the old party tickets you vote for "dividing up," not only on the industrial field, but on the battle field. You vote for war, dismemberment, and suicide. When you vote the Socialist ticket you vote for long life, peace, and happiness.

A Moving Picture.

"THE JUNGLE."

By J.L.

On seeing the picture on Upton Sinclair's book "The Jungle," again I thought I would try and rouse the women readers of the "International" to study Socialism. In the picture as screened, the driving force of poverty is plainly illustrated, also the horrible hold capitalism has over the "Workers." A family is invited to come to America by a friend, but, "alas," the so-called friend seeks also to make a profit out of them, on introducing them to a house agent. They are then seen viewing the meat works and holding their noses at the awful stench, but as familiarity breeds contempt, they go to work amongst it, and are seemingly happy when counting the first week's wages they receive. The screen shows one of the girls working in the sewing room, where they make the bags for hams, and the foreman sets his unscrupulous eyes on her. She marries, and during a period of "strike," she sees her family starving, her baby dying, all for the want of food. It is then the foreman tempts her, and when the driving force of poverty and starvation compels her to sell her body to him to obtain a little milk for her child, who died in her absence making her sacrifice in vain, the other sister obtains employment at the owner of the meat works "home," and is drugged and ruined by the son of the house. On going home she finds her family starving and about to be turned into the streets. She then goes back to demand money of her seducer to help her people. It is here again we see the brutality of the master class. The mother of the seducer finds her pleading with the son, and turns her out into the street. She eventually meets another woman, who helps on her ruin, but all she does is with the hope of helping her own family and keeping them from starvation. But all in vain. Through the driving force of poverty both these girls are sacrificed, until one dies, the home is broken up, the father dies, and the mother is sent to the poorhouse, and the other girl, realising her position, loses all hope and seeks to end her life by committing suicide. But just then she is saved by one of the family, who has come out of his trials and has for his hope the realisation of "Socialism." He saves her and bids her hope. Also, finally, we see a meeting in the "Socialist Hall" being addressed by Upton Sinclair, with the message on the wall: "Working Men of the World Unite." Broken in spirit he enters the hall, and is called "Comrade." He seems surprised to be addressed like this, and, after all the wrong and privations and misery he has gone through, we see him lead the girl he has rescued out to a home and show to her what can be done under the "Co-operative-Commonwealth." So, readers, again I crave of you to study this question, and when you meet a fallen sister try and understand the forces that have been at work to mar her life and join with us in abolishing a system that breeds such misery, vice, and degradation, and help to establish in its place the Socialist Republic where all shall have plenty of pleasure, food, clothing and shelter, and shall be true comrades, working one with the other to establish the Co-operative Commonwealth.

"Never in the history of Australia had legislators had so much responsibility upon them as at present. The Federal Government was neglecting the absolute wants of the people. It was true that the Fisher Government was doing its best to get men to go to the front. Parliament should do everything possible to protect the people from exploiters.

"There should be unanimity amongst laborites on that point, instead of which they found members turning the House into a bear garden. Both sides should be united in the effort to prevent the increase of prices by flag waggers and alleged patriots." (Applause.)

—E. F. Russell, Secretary of the Agricultural Implement Trades Union, Melbourne.

What we Socialists are saying seems to be quite true, then.

"Hitherto," says the new statesman, "the effect of our falling birthrate has been largely obscured by our falling death-rate, but this process has probably gone as far as it can go, and within a few years, perhaps even by the date of the next census, it is quite possible we may find ourselves with a stationary population." And the economic causes are not far to seek. They have their roots in the system which permits the parasites to own all the means of production of the nation.

When the War Came to Belgium.

(The following notes are taken from a letter writer by our Belgian comrade G. Marin, who is now in England.)

We attended the huge international Socialist meeting that was held in Brussels to protest against the coming war. It took place in the largest hall in the city, the Royal Circus; 8,000 people inside, and about 20,000 people outside, who could not get in. Never had we seen such a crowd in our city, and never had we dreamed of such enthusiasm anywhere, and especially in Belgium. Vandervelde was chairman. Keir Hardie spoke in the name of the English workers, Haase of the German, Troelstra of the Dutch, Rubanovitch of the Russian, Jaures of the French—I forget the names of the other delegates (Italian, etc.). Rosa Luxemburg was there, but too tired to speak; she had an ovation for her anti-militarist propaganda in Germany. Not only Socialists and Anarchists were there, but many others; and it was a very funny sight indeed to see the Liberal and even some of the Conservative bourgeoisie imploring support from the proletarian forces to save them from the coming danger of war. Haase told us that twenty-seven anti-war meetings were held in Berlin alone the previous night. The dirty capitalist game underlying the situation in each country was lengthily revealed by each of the speakers; and Jaures went so far as to say that if the French Government did commit the apprehended crime, his party was ready to refuse to march! This declaration was received with endless and thrilling hurrahs! Such was the spirit shown then, that we hoped at one time that the various Governments would hesitate in front of such a determined attitude of the working classes.

That night and the following day crowds of people were walking in every corner of the town with labels stuck on their hats or pinned on their coats, with these words: "War against War." All the Belgians I questioned, peasants and citizens, soldiers and civilians, men and women, every one was horrified at the idea of a war; and not one of them scared a scrap about being under the German, French, or English Government provided they had peace. The well-known lack of patriotism among the Belgians is unfortunately not the result of a sound understanding, but has different causes, which are: Firstly, that Belgium has no national language of its own, hence the ruling classes have never succeeded in breeding a real national psychology, in spite of their efforts through education and the press; secondly the Clerical Government, elected by the plural vote, has ceased for some time to represent the most numerous and especially the most active part of the population; thirdly, the unenthusiastic temperament of the Belgian does not give a hold to patriotism. Apart from all that, the Socialist party is very strong in all the industrial parts of the country, and has always taught the people to look on their foreign fellow workers as their friends, also that they would not be any more or less miserable under any other Government than the one they are enduring at present.

A very few days after the meeting, at midnight, the fatal news of a general mobilisation reached us. We were then living in a small Walloon village some fifteen miles from Brussels. At four o'clock in the morning we left, having determined to come back to England. We shall never forget the sight of this poor little village at night; mothers standing in their doorways, holding a lantern just bright enough to show the tears running down their cheeks. These unfortunate people understood that they had kissed their beloved children for the last time. We had to change trams and trains many times. Every station and every waggon was overloaded with soldiers. In one small station I endeavoured to talk to them; not one of them wanted to defend "his" country, "his" Government, Belgian integrity or "independence." In the trains we listened to the conversation. The men were wild at the idea of going to "shoot comrades of misfortune who had not done them any harm." In this concert of indignation I had not heard one discordant voice. Why, then, were they all going like a flock of sheep to the butchery! "If we don't, we shall be shot," was the only reply we could get.

You will understand now why Vandervelde, whose eloquence had made him the right arm of the Socialist Party in Belgium, and who had presided over the anti-war meeting, was suddenly appointed a Minister of State, by which step he became a traitor to his party and sold his great influence to the Government. For years his aim has been to become a Minister, and now it is realised. But I doubt whether

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Conscription Threatened.

Politicians want to sacrifice last man and last shilling on altar of Moloch.

The capitalist journals of Australia have long been full of paragraphs and articles advocating conscription, and the inevitable result is now beginning to become apparent. The thoughtless public, which is swayed hither and thither by scare headlines and astute official misrepresentations, has been worked up to the pitch which would make conscription acceptable to those who, due to prejudice and ignorance, are easily misled. This is the moment when we should expect capitalist politicians to come forward in order to serve the double purpose of advancing their own interests and the interests of the capitalistic groups on which they depend. Senator Bakup recently delivered a glowing oration in the Federal Senate, calling upon the Government to introduce conscription, and he was followed by Senator Lynch. These outbursts should not be passed lightly by. They are the fore-runners of active measures. It is time that workers should examine the issues at stake, and determine whether they should submit, or whether it is not more to their interest to consider what practical means of resistance they can adopt.

The great cry of the conscriptionists is that the liberty of the world is at stake. Is it true. Would the complete victory of Russia bring liberty to Europe? Are the Allies trying to conquer Turkey in order to bring liberty to the Turk, or in order to extend their markets? Senator Bakup says the Australian manhood should realise their duty of acting for the liberty of the world. But in financial circles we hear much more about capturing enemy trade than about liberty. It is markets, then, and not liberty, for which the present war is being fought. And we should not forget that extension of foreign markets does not benefit the working class, but only the capitalists, who accumulate surplus capital. In 1870 when England dominated the markets of the world, the English workers were poor. Now, when England has lost some foreign trade, the workers are better off economically. As for the pretence of liberty, Empire does not bring liberty. Germany, Great Britain, Russia, and France, which have all conquered and subdued foreign populations, have to sacrifice the liberties of their subjects in order to maintain military domination. And workers should not forget that military supremacy is the means by which sections of capitalists control and exploit the workers at home and abroad.

"There are half a million single men of military age in Australia. You must take these men and send them where they are most needed," says Senator Bakup. Needed, for what? For extending the markets of British, French, Italian, and Russian capitalists! He sees no terror in conscription. He will send people thousands of miles out of the country in order to perish miserably in some obscure part of the world for a cause which is not theirs. And this in a land of liberty!

H.C.

THE JUNKER.

"It is very difficult for anyone who is not a Junker or a successful barrister to get into an English Cabinet, no matter which party is in power, or to avoid resigning when we strike up the drum. The Foreign Office is a Junker Club. Our governing classes are overwhelming Junker; all who are not Junkers are riff-raff whose only claim to their position is the possession of ability of some sort; of course, the Kaiser is a Junker, though less true-blue than the Crown Prince, and much less autocratic than Sir Edward Grey, who, without consulting us, sends us to war by a word to an ambassador and pledges all our wealth to his foreign allies by a stroke of the pen."—George Bernard Shaw.

C. W. writes from up North:

"The milkman boycotted our baby, six months old, because its father happened to be born in Germany. There are no "Huns" here."

he has inoculated his flock with any virus since I left. Some Belgian refugees I saw lately in England told me that "the annexation of Belgium by Germany would have been a hundred times preferable to the disaster the country has suffered by the war; and that if the Allies had really any pity for the Belgians, they had much better not begin all over again for the sake of King Albert and his co-beneficiaries."

These few notes might be useful to give you what I think a more exact idea of the Belgian question than the official notes.

—"Freedom."

The Patriot.

The Patriot anti-imperialist
On yonder lonely peak forlorn doth stand
With arms outstretched to God—a moralist
And teacher of the Past! His stern command
Unheeded falls upon his fellowmen;
His groans the Heavens rend—yet never touch
The souls of those he most entreats—for when
He weeps, they laugh and mock his cries!

—"Not much
Care ye for Freedom's name when thus ye slay
Brown, Orient men to swell your dividends!
That I should live to see this shameful day!
For in a sea of blood the river ends
That started once a glorious stream! O may
These treach'rous deeds be writ upon the scroll
Of future minds as infamy! And e'er
My children's children read them to extol—
May this fair land be blotted out! I fear
My country's future while I love her name:
No more her stars and stripes I care to see
Upon the morning breeze! I sink with shame—
And cry unto my God on bended knee—
Yet no man heeds—nor does my God
Incline his ear to me."

The Patriot hides his face within his hands—
And shuddering—hears the click of telegraph,
As great commercial lords give their commands
And bid him fall before the Golden Calf—
As brutal Commerce seated on her throne
This message gives by way of telephone:—

SONG OF THE TRUSTS.

In the market—on the street—
Tidings bring of price of wheat;
Price of copper—price of gold—
Price of steel and iron cold!
Price of mutton and beef
Higher soars beyond belief!
Price of corn and sugar sweet—
Price of all you want to eat!—
Price of coal in tiny pail—
For the poor no larger scale
Than they carry on the arm—
'Tis enough to keep them warm!
From that pail our profits come—
Let the poor pay thrice the sum!
Up and up the prices go—
We the Trusts will have them so!

In the war across the seas,
Tell that Patriot on his knees
We can shoot the fellows down
While he prays for black and brown!
We have made this war for gain!
Let him go and pray for rain!
God is ever on the side
Of the money-bags that ride
High upon the backs of poor
Workingmen—you may be sure!
This our answer to his prayers—
Let him flout us if he dares!

Upon his feet the Patriot stands once more
Wild-eyed and speechless. Then with haggard face
Turned from the sight of Wall Street's open door—
And all the horrors of that market-place—
A sound he hears upon the evening breeze—
A softly whispered sigh that fills the air
Yet scarcely stirs a leaf upon the trees—
A human sigh of weariness and care!
It is a sigh from factory, mill and mine,
Department store and railroads' length along.
From laborers who stand and seek a sign
Of better things in store to right their wrong
While handing back their product with a moan
And all their children in exchange for bread!

Now rustling murmurs from the trees are blown—
The wind has changed! Around the Patriot's head
Soft zephyrs play, strange music doth he hear;
From distant mountain tops hoarse voices sing
A noble anthem until disappear
Those sighing moans of men!
Then slowly ring
Those voices in a chant with words most clear:—

SONG OF LABOR.

I.

Go—bind your wounded hearts, O ye
Who stand and weep for liberty!
The freedom that you weeping mourn
For us has never yet been born;
For us no poet sings the morn
To cheer us with his ecstacy!

This is the land of patriots who
Have ever cherished for the few
The vision that the many knew
For them was but a mockery!

The sigh of Labor you have heard
Is but an echo of the word
That sweeps along like frightened bird
Before the winds of destiny!

Around the world that sigh extends!
It has no meaning till it lends
Its broken note to higher ends
Than plaintive songs of poverty!

A thousand Christs upon the hills
Of Calvary to bear our ills—
By power of their celestial wills
And all their sweet divinity—

Could not in suffering take our place,
Or by their sacred tears displace
What we have given to the race—
We are the sons of Calvary!

Go—bind our wounded hearts, O ye
Who take a word for liberty!
'Tis but a name! When was it known
To make atonement if a stone
Was offered us for daily bread?

In Orient lands, another name
Ye give to those who build their fame
On highway robbery! The same
Oppressing hands have always bled

The poor at home of all they made!
Now 'cross the seas they boldly raid
Those lovely isles that long have paid
The robbers' price with gallant dead.

II.

Across the blackened ages past
We see ourselves in truth at last;
We stand and look—and are aghast—
And wonder at the mystery!

For kings we swung the battle-axe:
We paid in blood a heavier tax
Than all the knights upon our backs
With all their pomp and chivalry!

For them we fixed our arrow true;
For them we aimed—the bow we drew—
Nor reasoned why—nor asked or knew—
Our brothers in the sunlight slew—
And with their blood wrote history.

The death of yeomen as a game
Our masters thought too dear when came
The manufacturer's day and fame—
Then marched we to the factory!

We took the thread and wove the cloth;
We built machines and pledged our troth
To make the goods for South or North—
We ate but little—and our broth
Was payment for our industry.

We mined the coal—we wrought the steel—
We taught the elements to kneel
Before the swift revolving wheel—
A meager, living wage we drew!

We strapped the continent with rails
And bound together hills and dales;
We held them fast with iron nails—
We builded better than we knew!

We spanned the river with a bridge
And tunneled through the mountain ridge—
We built the old—we built the new—
We built all things so strong and true!
We built them not for us but you!

III.

Yet all we built we only lent!
We never surely could have meant
Those treasures from the firmament—
Like Juggernauts with cruel intent—
To crush us in our discontent
And swell the gains of cornered stocks!

Far better to have left the rocks
Where Nature placed them—in her box—
Than ever to have picked her locks
And from her quarries torn the blocks
As monuments to human greed!

We builded for the human race!
As Master Builders by the grace
Of God we hold the title-deed
That every one who runs may read!

Behold the spirit of Labor! We
Have all things made: our destiny
Outrunning ancient prophecy
Shall build man's goodness to the skies!
Behold the spirit of Labor rise!
Behold the face of Liberty!

Slow rising from the valley's depth is seen
A cloudy mist of strange gigantic form;
Upon its crest a white and silvery sheen
As tho' the sunlight and the shadowy storm
Had met! So piercing are those glorious beams
Of light—all conquered is the sullen gloom!
And dazzled are the Patriot's eyes! It seems
As if before him now distinctly loom
The outlines of a shape that line by line
Majestically human grows! Benign
It stands revealed in sunlight—then divine—
With face celestial looking out from space!
Then falls the Patriot awed upon his face
And cries with all his soul in ecstacy:—
"It is the face of Liberty I see!

The face of Labor beautiful and free!
The face of Labor glorified as Art!
O Spirit of Labor! Look forgivingly
On me—I know thee now—thou art
'The Christ that is to be!'"

—CAROLINE PEMBERTON

In the International Socialst Review, 1-1-03.

RESOLUTION FORWARDED TO SYDNEY LABOUR COUNCIL RE BOYCOTT OF ALIEN UNIONISTS.

The Socialist I.W.W. protests against the action of those unions that have declared an indiscriminate boycott of fellow unionists of Continental birth or extraction, as calculated to divide the workers and foster strike-breakers in future labour struggles. Further, the I.W.W. contends that it is the bounden duty of the Labour Council to make an official pronouncement against this cruel crusade against peaceable alien citizens, and that the German-Austrian militarist menace in Europe will not be overthrown by the adoption of such intolerant reactionary appeals to benighted racial prejudices that are unworthy of the Australian democracy and destructive to industrial unity.

GEORGE WAITE,
Cor. Sec. I.W.W.

North Sydney, 5/6/'15.

A letter of commendation also has been sent to the Furniture Trades Union, approving of their attitude against Jingo man-hunts and the victimisation of helpless women and children by disloyal labour patriots.t

SCIENCE vs. FANTASY.

The difference between speculative and inductive science is that between fantasy and sound common sense. The latter produces its ideas by means of the outer world, by the help of experience, while fantasy gets its product from the depth of the mind, out of itself. But this method of production is only seemingly one-sided. A thinker can no more think transcendental thoughts which are beyond the reach of experience, than a painter can invent transcendental pictures, transcendental forms. Just as fantasy creates angels by a combination of man and bird, or mermaids by a composition of woman and fish, so all other products of fantasy, though seemingly derived out of itself, are in fact only arbitrarily arranged impressions of the outer world. Reason operates with numbers and orders, time and measures, and other means of experience, while fantasy reproduces the experiences without regard to law and in an arbitrary form.

DIETZGEN.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objects.—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production, Distribution and Exchange.
Headquarters: 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.

LUKE JONES,
General Secretary.

CENTRAL EBECUTIVE.

The E.C. met on Sat. June 12, when the following motion was adopted as a special guiding rule in the event of an extension of conscription taking place:

"That if adult Conscription is placed upon the Statute book, all members of the A.S.P. shall refuse to train and shall resist the law to the utmost.

Next meeting of the C.E. will be held on Sat. June 26.

LUKE JONES,
Gen. Sec.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

A week of rather unique propaganda was terminated by an equally unique event, followed by an interesting discussion, opened on Sunday night by Com. Luke Jones on "Custom."

This last week the Strand Picture Theatre have been exhibiting "The Jungle," by Upton Sinclair, one of the Fraser Films. This picture levels an indictment at the modern capitalist system, almost as well as Sinclair's book itself does. On Tuesday, its second day, a party of comrades paid it a visit, very appropriately terminating by singing "The Red Flag," very much to the surprise of a rather large audience. This picture will shortly be presented again in Sydney. It would pay one to see it.

On Sunday night last, Comrades Mr. and Mrs. Strasborough had their little baby girl named in the hall. Comrade Jones performed the ceremony, which consisted of sprinkling white rose petals over the baby as an emblem of purity, in contra distinction to the Christian theory of original sin, and then sprinkling red rose petals over the baby, thereby dedicating her to the Revolution.

At the termination of this performance, the aforementioned discussion was opened by Comrade Jones. In the first place, the fact was referred to that at one time it was customary to name babies after objects, this itself being a typical demonstration of how material conditions affect the human mind.

It was pointed out how the custom of baptism went much further back than Christianity, this, with other customs, having been purloined by the Christian Church in attempting to popularise itself. Most of Society's activites are based upon Custom, the custom itself in the first place having been caused through economic necessity. The whole system of modern jurisprudence is a standing example of this. Law is divided into Common and Statute Law; the former being the custom of Society and the latter being the legalised crystalisation of the most established portion of the former. The address here vitiated into a discussion on the merits and demerits of political action, and was followed by rather critical discussion.

Next Sunday is to be an address by Mr. Peter Board, M.A., Director of Education, subject being "Co-operative System of Education."

STREET FIXTURES:

DOMAIN.
Jones, Kilburn, and Roche.

MARKET-STREET.
Rees Chair, Rosenthal, C. Marsh.

PARK STREET
Jenkin and Rudolph.

LIVERPOOL-St.
P. Harford and J. Jones.

BALMAIN.

On Sunday night Comrade Nelson debated with a preacher from the Helping Hand Mission on Socialism. Sloan acted as chairman and a good set-to was held. It arose out of a question Nelson put to the preacher at a meeting on a previous Sunday. Nelson's opponent refused to mount the soap-box because of the inscription "Workers of the World Unite," so he spoke from the road. He also refused to answer the Socialist argument and furnished an easy mark for his opponent who had a good deal the best of it.

N. G.

National Library of Australia http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page12248059

ADELAIDE.

We had R. S. Ross, editor Melbourne "Socialist," here for a lecture. Bob was returning from a visit to Broken Hill, and decided to speak here on his way to Melbourne. A meeting was advertised for Sunday afternoon in the Botanic Park. A fair crowd turned up, but a number of war-drunk boneheads refused to listen, and finally broke up the meeting.

H.S.

BROKEN HILL.

It is some months since a report from this branch appeared in the party press, and no doubt rebels in other places are wondering what has gone wrong with the Barrier Reds. Well, we have not given up the struggle for working class freedom, but have been going through a fairly trying time. As a result of unemployment, our membership has dwindled down, and, of course, also our revenue, and besides, some of our best speakers have left the Hill in search of a master. As a matter of fact, we have only two speakers left, myself and Comrade A. E. Sinclair, but still per medium of union meeting, street corner and indoor meetings, we are endeavouring to hammer a litle class-consciousness into the wage-slaves here. We have been fortunate enough to have the assistance of Comrade Bob Ross, secretary of the Victorian Socialist party, during the last five weeks. Bob came up here to relieve the Editor of Barrier "Truth," at the invitation of the management, and Barrier Reds were pleased to welcome him and to find him just as militant as ever, and Bob was anxious to explain to the workers here the working-class side of the European War Crime. And this he did effectively per medium of the "Truth" and A.S.P. platform. Ross's first lecture was entitled "The Case for Socialism," delivered in the Socialist Hill. The next, "War and the Workers," was delivered in the Trades Hall to a full house. "After the War—What?" and "The Story of the Eureka Stockade" was also delivered in the Socialist Hall. Sinclair and O'Reilly addressed outdoor meetings prior to the lectures. All the lectures resulted in good sales of "War, What For," and "The Story of Eureka," and general Socialist literature. The Socialist "Review" (U.S.A.), sold out. All the speakers tried to impress the listeners with the stupidity of the war calamity, and the absolute stupidity of the workers being gulled by the patriotism of the boss, and fooled to enlisting in defence of the boss's interests. They further tried to convince them that the cause of the war was not Germany or Russia or any particular country engaged, but the cause lay in the capitalist system of profit-making, pushing the various groups of manufactures in Europe to trade, and "Commercial Expansion." The listening slaves were informed that if they desired peace, plenty, and leisure, their only chance was to educate themselves and help organise industrially and politically an educated, class-conscious working class. All the meetings were orderly, and the speakers accorded a good hearing.

The branch intend to keep the meetings going if possible, and the mines working half time again will give plenty of time for study—great thing this half time. Next Sunday J. J. O'Reilly will lecture on "The War," and "The Social Revolution."

J. J. O'REILLY, Hon. Sec.

MELBOURNE NOTES.

Since last branch report appeared good work has been done by our branch, several well-attended propaganda meetings having been held, both indoor and out.

The attendance at the social activities of the branch show a decided improvement, and great credit is due the organisers, Messrs. Croskie and Aanensen, as they in particular have been responsible for the increased interest.

Literature sales, although good, ought to be much better, if only a few other members would lend a hand in this respect.

Of course comrades in other parts must understand that so far as Victoria is concerned all literature sold on Sundays is disposed of in secret, and as the anti-political I.W.W. by their stupid tactics of defiance of the existing law, when they had neither the men to put up a fight, or the inclination to continue when they had started, dropped their bundle after indulging in much bombast as to what they intended to do, the police have paid extra attention to all meetings, and especially to the meeting held under the auspices of our branch, because it always boasts the largest attendances.

We of the Melbourne Branch record with deep regret the death of Comrade Miss Hilda Gardner, of Gisborne. Miss Gardner was a member of the branch from its inception, but owing to a two years' illness was unable to visit branch premises except on very-rare occasions. All members desire me to express on their behalf their sincere regret.

Yours for Revolt.
A. D.
Corresponding Seseretary.

NEWTOWN.

BRANCH ROOMS, 41 Enmore Road, Newtown. Propaganda meetings: Friday Evenings, Johnstone-St., Leichhardt. Saturday and Sunday Evenings, Newtown Bridge

PROPAGANDA FIXTURES.

Friday Night: Johnstone-St., Leichhardt:
Chair: F. Hancock Speakers: C. Jackson, J. Roche.

Saturday Night. Newtown Bridge:
Chair: C. Jackson. Speakers: J. Brown, J. Kilburn.

Sunday Night: Newtown Bridge:
Chair: C. Jackson. Speakers: J. Kilburn, J. Roche.

Members in arrears with contributions, are requested to make themselves clear on the book, if possible, before the half-yearly meeting—the first meeting in July. Members out of work, or in financial difficulties, should present their cards to the Secretary to be checked.

A little finance will enable the branch to finish six months of propaganda in a very creditable manner. It will also enable us to enter the ensuing half-year determined to make it a bigger success than the present.

Members willing to assist in holding meetings at Marrickville are requested to notify the Secretary.

RAY EVERITT,
Secretary.

LEICHHARDT SOCIALISTS.

Comrades who are in favor of establishing a branch of the A.S.P. at Leichhardt are requested to hand in their names to—

J. BROWN,
70 Myrtle Street,
Stanmore.

"La Bataille Syndicaliste" recently dealt in earnest terms with the war against drink. In France it is not new. For some years there has been a scientific attack on alcohol, various associations taking part in the struggle against the destroyer, which our contemporary regards as more fatal than pest or cholera. Europe seems to be a terribly drunken place—in more ways than one. It is war-drunk at present.

LIFELONG LOAFERS.

In a debate on the Munitions Bill, in the British House of Lords, Lord St. Davids appears to have delivered a remarkable speech. Amongst other things he said:

He regretted that the bill did not give the power to requisition other men as well as workers. He dissociated himself from the attacks which had been made upon the great organised working classes. He said that the upper classes had come wonderfully well out of the trial, but there were still idlers among them.

Even among members of the House of Lords, he said, there were men who had never done a day's work for themselves or anybody else since they were born. The sons of some members were still hanging round the theatres and music halls. While that was so, it was no use going to the working men and talking of conscription or compulsory service. Men who refused to work should be made to fight.

The cables didn't say how the above remarks were received by the "old nobility," but we wouldn't be surprised to learn that they provoked a demonstration somewhat similar to that pictured by Victor Hugo when his "Laughing Man" made his speech in the historic chamber.

Sydney Trades Hall Council turned down an offer of the A.S.P. to send speakers to address members on the question of trade unionists refusing to work with Germans and Austrians. The Council stated that the matter was under consideration. If that is so, let us hope that the Council will rise superior to the prejudices of some of the federated unions, and take a fair stand on behalf of the victims of ignorant persecution.

The Enigma.

The goaded grind of the toiler.
The work that is never done,
The ceaseless struggle for living,
By sweat from sun to sun;
That others may loll in plenty,
In ease they never won.
The haggard eyes of a woman,
The twisted form of a man,
The child, with its shrunken features,
Who knew not when childhood began—
All for the sake of her raiment,
The price of her silken fan;
Yet the papers make much of her giving,
And speak of her charities rare;
Forgetting the ones she is feeding,
The ones that are burdened with care,
Have given their lives for her dainties,
And the jewels that gleam in her hair.

W. T. SHEPPARD

Books and Pamphlets on Sale.

Title.	s.	d.
The Positive Outcome of Philosophy, also in same volume Letters on Logic and the Nature of Human Brain Work (Dietzgen)	4s.	
Landmarks of Scientific Socialism (Anti-Duehring). Contains the most important portions of the larger work from which Socialism, Utopian and Scientific was taken (Engels)	4s.	
The Physical Basis of Mind and Morals. Shows the origin of mind and the relation of economics to morals (Fitch)	4s.	
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AUBURN BRANCH.

The above branch meets every Monday night in the Class Room, School of Arts, Queen-street, at 7.45 p.m.

Propaganda meetings are held every Friday evening at "Bundock," corner Auburn-road and Queen-street, at 8.15 p.m.

Those who desire to join should give their names to the branch Secretary,

J. J. KEGG,

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